(d) Sufficient grants as per the requirement of Kendriya Vidyalayas under the head furniture are released to meet the requirement of furniture for additional sections sanctioned during the current year.

**Demand for increasing number and value of National Awards for Teachers**

3131. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN:

Will the PRIME MINISER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a persistent demand for increase in the number and value of National Awards for Teachers given on the Teacher's Day;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Demands for increase in the value of National Award for Teachers have beeen received from various Teachers Organisations from time to time. From 1987 onwards, the award money has been increased from Rs. 2,500/- to Rs. 5,000/-. Since 1988, the number of awards have also been increased from 186 to 300. In view of the recent increase, there is no proposal to further increase the number of awards and the value of award money.

**Infiltration into Indian border in Rajouri Sector**

3132. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 18th August, 1990 to the effect that terrorists are infiltrating into Indian border on Rajouri Section with sophisticated 'chemical weapons';

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to protect civilian and defence targets from this new strategy which may be adopted by them in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) Government do not have any information to suggest that terreris.s are infiltrating into India with sophisticated chemical weapons.

(c) Government closely monitor all developments affecting our security and safety and periodically update arrangements to meet any developing threat.

**Employment to disabled soldiers**

3133. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by Government to provide employment to the disabled soldiers/personnel of Army, Air Force;

(b) the total number of such soldiers given/provided employment upto 31st August, 1990; and

(c) by when Government propose to provide employment to the rest of the soldiers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Under the existing instructions, for the purpose of appointment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts under the Central Government, filled through Employment Exchanges, the disabled ex-Servicemen, whether disabled during war or in peace time but whose disability is attributable to military service, are

accorded Priority-I along with the retrenched employees of the Government. Further upto 2 members each of the families of Defence Service Personnel killed or severely disabled, whether during war or peace time, are given priority immediately below the disabled ex-servicemen i.e. Priority IIA. Disabled Defence Service Personnel are also eligible for relaxation in age and educational qualifications.

(b) The following number of Disabled Soldiers were given employment during the last 3 years:—

| 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
|---|---|---|
| 290 | 89 | 54 |

(c) Re-employment of Disabled ex-Servicemen is a continuing process. Since there number is not static and as the employment process is handled by various Central Government Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, State Governments etc., based on the number of available vacancies, no specific time frame for their re-employment can be laid down.

**Unused forest land in Andhra Pradesh**

3134. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large area of forest land in Andhra Pradesh is lying unused;

(b) if so, the estimated area of forest land in Andhra Pradesh, and out of it the estimated area lying unused;

(c) whether Government have chalked out the programme; for utilisation of unused forest land, if so, the details thereof;

(d) if reply to part (c) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor: and

(e) whether any financial help/grant would be provided to the State Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) and (b) As per the studies conducted by Forest Survey of India using Satellite imageries, out of the recorded forest of 6.37 M.ha. of Andhra Pradesh the area under actual forest cover is 4.79 M ha. giving a degraded area of 1.58 M.ha.

(c) to (e) It is proposed to reafforest 9 M.ha. of degraded forest land during Eight Five Year Plan in the country including Andhra Pradesh.

**Involvement of private sector in Defence production**

3135. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) is it true that private sector is sought to be involved in taking up production of defence items under the indigenisation scheme;

(b) if yes, what steps are being taken in this direction;

(c) what role is being assigned to the small scale sector under the scheme; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The capacity available in the civil sector industry including the private sector is already being utilised for the indigenous development of defence items.

(b) The steps taken in this direction are (i) capacity verification; (ii) providing technical information relating to the items to be developed; (iii) placement of *ab initio* developmental orders and providing technical guidance right through the stage of development upto submission of *proto types* and their evaluation; (iv) advances are also given in some deserving cases.